

Partly cloudy today; rain tomorrow; winds becoming easterly and fresh

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PATENT ATTORNEYS COMPLAIN OF ALLEN'S PUBLIC HEARINGS

Strong Feeling That Commissioner Is Unjust.

DEPUTY IS DISREGARDED

Inventors Said to Be Spreading Dissatisfaction Throughout the Country. May Injure Administration.

Mutterings deep and earnest are heard among the local patent attorneys because of the way in which cases are heard by Frederick I. Allen, the Commissioner of Patents. The volume of the murmurs has been growing for the past six months, and it would not be surprising if it eventually reached the Secretary of the Interior and the President.

No concerted action has yet been taken by the patent attorneys, but the feeling of unrest may very possibly produce some result, according to those who know, unless Mr. Allen changes his methods.

The principal grievance against Mr. Allen is that he is brusque in manner, and that even in the most important cases he does not allow the attorneys more than a few minutes in which to present oral arguments in support of written briefs. The usual allowance is half an hour.

Oral Argument Unreasonably Limited.

The attorneys say that in intricate and weighty trials the time granted for argument is so short that it is impossible for an attorney to outline, much less to elucidate, the points upon which he bases his contention. In consequence the attorneys have to rely entirely upon their briefs, and the litigant inventors are deprived of the benefits derived from the employment of the best legal talent.

It has been pointed out by those interested in the matter that the Commissioner is trying more than his share of the cases, allowing but few to be heard by the Assistant Commissioner, and the attorneys say that this is chiefly the reason the Commissioner finds it necessary to limit the time. Why the Commissioner should desire to hear a disproportionate number of cases, and so bring upon himself more work than is necessary, is not known.

Assistant Disregarded.

Another charge is that the Commissioner is depriving the Assistant of the honor of hearing many of the cases which he does hear. It is said the Assistant is credited only with decisions which are made when his superior is out of the city.

One prominent patent attorney said yesterday:

"We are nearly ready to revolt at the manner in which the Commissioner conducts hearings. Some patent trials involve important points of law, practice, and Patent Office precedence which cannot be fully set forth in a brief, no matter how clear a writer the attorney may be. Furthermore, when an argument rests entirely on a brief you never have any certainty how carefully the brief was considered or whether the Commissioner thoroughly understood the contention.

"The Commissioner arrogates to himself power in curtailing the time for argument, which would be decided illegal in a court of law. An attorney will be talking along a particular line when the Commissioner will say:

"What is the point you are trying to explain? I will give you just ten or fifteen minutes to set it forth, and that's all."

"The effect of such an order is immediately disastrous, for the attorney in many instances realizes that it is impossible to do his client justice in so short a time, and in some instances an unreasonably limited argument is worse than none at all.

Dissatisfaction Is Spreading.

"The dissatisfaction is spreading all over the country, and is not doing the Administration any good. Prominent patent attorneys from New York and other cities have gone to great expense to come to Washington to argue before the Commissioner, and have been enraged to find the time allotted so short that the trip was useless. The bitter feeling caused by these incidents rankles a long time, and seeds of discontent are sown which will be hard to kill.

"Inventors who suffer at such hearings are even more violent in their denunciation of the office and the Administration than the attorneys. An inventor who does not win his case almost always thinks the entire world is against him, and when his attorney tells him that the plea was injured because of the Commissioner's action, he becomes a sworn enemy of everything and everybody in Washington."

MEAT PACKERS WAVER.

CHICAGO, April 18.—Although the meat packers have only until next Tuesday to answer the Government's bill of complaint against their so-called trust, Attorney John S. Miller said today that he had not decided whether to file an answer or appeal the case to the Supreme Court. If the latter course is adopted the packers will try to show that Judge Grosscup erred in overruling their demurrer and that, admitting the truth of the Government's attorneys' charges, they have not violated the law.

MAY BE NO ROOM FOR MISS BARTON AT GENEVA MEETING

American Delegates to Be Officers of Army and Navy.

WOULD BAR "INNER CIRCLE"

Prospect That New York Contingent May Be Broadly Excluded as an Inoperative Body.

It is doubtful whether the Barton faction will have an opportunity to present its side of the Red Cross controversy to the Geneva conference of the forty-four powers which signed the treaty under which the Red Cross came into existence.

The meeting is to be held in September, for the purpose of adopting amendments to the Geneva treaty necessary to extend the Red Cross movement to naval warfare. The legal side, rather than the sentimental side, of the Red Cross is to be considered, and the various governments will be represented chiefly by army and naval officers. The conference will in no sense resemble that held in St. Petersburg, Russia, last year, which was distinctly a conference of Red Cross societies. The Geneva meeting will be a conference of governments.

Gen. George B. Davis has been selected by the State Department as the representative of the army who shall go to Geneva. Although the representative of the navy has not been announced, it is rumored that Captain Mahan has been chosen. Assistant Secretary Loomis of the State Department said yesterday the Government had not yet determined how many representatives it would send to Geneva, and that it was not known whether civilians would be sent in addition to the army and navy officers.

Interest in this conference now centers about the possible appointment of civilians. Members of the little band of twenty-three Washingtonians, who have been suspended by the American Red Cross, say that their interests will be well looked after at the Geneva conference. Although they do not say that they are to have a delegate at the Swiss conference, their confidence makes such an inference reasonable.

Question of Official Standing.

Any action taken by the Geneva conference will be of great importance. Delegates will attend as the representatives of governments rather than Red Cross societies, and any expression of approval or disapproval they may see fit to make concerning the American Red Cross will have great effect on the society. It will be the voice of the powers which created the Geneva treaty rather than the utterance of societies which have grown up under that famous instrument.

In their refusal to continue as a board of consultation for the American Red Cross the President and members of the Cabinet expressed their approval of the reform movement inaugurated by the twenty-three Red Cross members who are now expelled. If civilians are to be named to attend the Geneva conference it is believed the suspended members will be honored by the Administration.

Learned attorneys have expressed the opinion that the American Red Cross has ceased to exist since the changes in its by-laws which resulted in the withdrawal of the support of the President and Cabinet. This is the chief claim of the twenty-three suspended members, and the Administration is believed to give credence to it. If such be the case, it is not likely that a supporter of a society which is said to exist in name only will be named delegate to Geneva.

Simon Wolf, Gen. J. M. Wilson, Mabel T. Boardman, and J. Ellen Foster, the members of the subcommittee named by the suspended members to prepare a statement of their position, met yesterday afternoon at Miss Boardman's home in Dupont Circle. The subcommittee considered a reply which will be sent to Walter Phillips, of the Red Cross executive committee, denying the legality of their suspension. This reply was framed by Hilary A. Herbert. It will be submitted with slight amendments to Mr. Herbert, who is now in Alabama. He will return to Washington, and it will then be submitted to a meeting of the twenty-three suspended members and forwarded to the so-called officers of the Red Cross. This reply is said to deny the legal existence of the society.

A Pocket for a Treasury.

In the statement which the subcommittee is preparing for the public a brief review will be made of the events which induced the Washingtonians to make the condition of the society known to Congress. It will contain no attack on Miss Barton. The business methods, and not the officers of the society, are subjected to criticism.

The attempts which the suspended members have made to have complete statements issued concerning the money disbursed by the Red Cross will be reviewed, as well as the criticism which led to the chartering of the society in 1896.

Miss Barton was so accustomed to do as she pleased that she is said to have frequently said her pocket was the treasury of the society, and that the accounting of funds sought by some members of the society would only result in delay in work.

Seaboard Change of Time.

Through trains now leave daily as follows: Seaboard Mail at 10:46 a. m. and Seaboard Express at 7 p. m. at Jacksonville, Tampa, Atlanta, and New Orleans. Pullman sleepers and day dining cars—Adv.

SEVENTY TURKS KILLED IN BATTLE WITH INSURGENTS

Fierce Fight Occurs at Opila, in the Balkans.

CONDITIONS IN MACEDONIA

Leaders of Insurrection Believe That Hour of Independence Is at Hand.

LONDON, April 18.—A dispatch from Salonica says that a fierce encounter has just occurred between the Turks and insurgents at Opila. Seventy Turks were killed. The insurgents claim that they only lost ten men.

While the conditions in Macedonia are decidedly worse—blacker, indeed, than if civilized warfare was being waged—it is important to note that the international aspect of the situation is improving.

It would be profitless now to conjecture what will be consummated by the Sultan's non-Mohammedan subjects at the Easter festival of the Greek church, which begins tomorrow, though the midwinter weather which holds all Europe at this season must impede the campaign leaders in delivering any rapid blow. While the railways are still moderately serviceable for the Turks where the bridges have not been blown up, the Macedonians and liberators are less fortunate. The mountain passes are completely blocked with snow, and the wider roads afford only the slowest going. Despite the adverse military conditions, it is probable that an insurrection will be attempted immediately.

Disinterested but skeptical onlookers write that this is really the last possible chance after twenty-five years of preparation, and the leaders realize that they must try now or forever lose their job. There is the highest ground for saying that the Russian policy will be directed toward postponing the inevitable clash and with it, a solution of the Balkan problem.

A clear-sighted observer of much experience, who is now in Constantinople, writes that the embassies there are all convinced of Russia's sincerity in endeavoring to avert a crisis now between herself and Turkey. The situation in that respect is identical with that of 1876. All agree that Russia's hand may be forced in the Macedonian and Bulgarian developments of the next few weeks, as it was in 1877. At the same time, Russia is far from desiring to see the Balkan troubles really settled now, inasmuch as she will probably have to find in them her casus belli when she makes a grasp at Constantinople.

MISSOURI BOODLE SCANDALS CAUSE LEGISLATORS TO SUFFER INSOMNIA

Several Solons Absent Themselves From Their Accustomed Haunts—Three State Senators May Be Obligated to Answer Serious Charges—Lee to Return.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 18.—Sufficient evidence was produced before the April grand jury today to justify the indictment for bribery by the Cole county grand jury of three State senators whose names have not heretofore figured in the legislative boodle scandal, according to well-informed persons.

In addition to these, it is said that Eugene Hansmann, of St. Louis county, gave evidence as to the sudden accession of wealth by legislators from the county which, to say the least, is suspicious. Senator Brell L. Matthews and Representative E. L. Gardner, of St. Louis county, badly wanted by the local grand jury, cannot be found. Whether they are implicated in the scandal is purely a matter of conjecture, but their disappearance from their accustomed haunts is causing comment.

Another fact was made public today

that will cause many a boodler to suffer for an attack of insomnia, and that is that James Whitecotton, speaker of the last house, and the man who first asserted that legislative corruption existed, had an all-day conference with Circuit Attorney Folk last Sunday, and is to appear before the local grand jury Monday, and, on oath, re-tell his story.

Capt. "Bob" Lee, brother of the fugitive Lieutenant governor, had an interview with Mr. Folk today and assured him that he would have John A. Lee in the city Tuesday morning, ready and willing to go before the grand jury. Not much importance is attached to this promise, however, as it is claimed that the Lieutenant governor's testimony before the April grand jury and the Cole county body was so contradictory as to make it almost certain that he will be indicted on a charge of perjury, if indeed, he escapes one for bribery.

Among the witnesses before the grand jury today were the Rev. Clayton Brooks, of Jefferson City, whose charges of legislative corruption precipitated the present investigation; Representative Joseph R. Lee, Senator John Sartorius, J. T. Craighead, manufacturer of baking powder; Representative Seibert, a saloon keeper; Stanley Stoner, a lawyer and representative of the Pennsylvania Salt Company, which is said to have sold alum to companies outside the trust, and Anthony Faust, Jr., who testified as to money raised for the defeat of the Audubon bill.

Circuit Attorney Folk and Attorney General Crow have arranged for a conference tomorrow, at which a plan of campaign will be mapped out, which, it is believed, will prove disastrous to many not even suspected at the present time.

SAILORS ANXIOUS TO LEAVE THE MAINE

Tars Assert That the New Battleship Is "Hoodooed."

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The battleship Maine put in at League Island tonight and will proceed to Camps Monday to be thoroughly overhauled. The sailors were anxious to leave the battleship. They say she is "hoodooed," and they confirm the stories which have leaked out concerning attempted desertions. On Monday the crew will be apportioned between the cruisers Yankee and Minneapolis.

An expert will be sent by the Government to make a thorough examination of the ship before she goes into dry dock.

BIG LAND DEAL.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 18.—The purchase of 250,218 acres of land in Jones and Onslow counties, in the southeastern part of South Carolina, was completed this week by Attorney George H. Burrows, of this city, for the Southern Land and Colonization Company, which was recently organized and incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, and capitalized for \$600,000.

BODY OF CAPTAIN LORD TO REST AT ARLINGTON

Arrangements for the Obsequies Not Yet Completed.

The arrangements for the funeral of Capt. Thomas W. Lord, whose body was found in the Potomac River off Marshall Hall, have not yet been completed. The burial will not take place until the arrival of Theodore H. Eaton, a brother-in-law, of Detroit, Mich., who is expected to reach here today.

Should Mr. Eaton not be delayed, the body will probably be placed temporarily in a receiving vault at Arlington today. From present indications, the services will be held Tuesday, under the supervision of Kit Carson Post, G. A. R., and the Loyal Legion, of which he was a member.

THE CHICHOTA DELAYED.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., April 18.—Edwin Gould, of New York, has unexpectedly to himself, been spending the last three days in Annapolis as a guest at Carvel Hill. Mr. Gould's enforced stay was on account of the non-arrival of his yacht, the Chichota, which the storm on the Chesapeake delayed for two days in her passage from Norfolk.

VOTERS' ASSISTANTS LAW STILL IN FORCE

Delaware Governor Refuses to Attach Signature to Repealer.

DOVER, Del., April 18.—Delaware will still have the Addicks voters' assistants law. Governor Huns allowed midnight to come without attaching his signature to the repealer, which, by a coalition of the Democrats and regular Republicans, passed the Legislature toward the close of the recent session, and which would have abolished the system of voters' assistants at general elections in this State.

ENGINEER KILLED BY TRAIN HE DESERTED

CUMBERLAND, Md., April 18.—Daniel B. Hutton, aged forty-four years, of Romney, W. Va., a passenger engineer on the Romney branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, deserted his engine this morning at Green Springs, leaving no one in charge. He went to Brady's Mills, seven miles west of Cumberland. After calling on his sister, Mrs. J. S. Van Meiter, he walked out in front of his train and was killed.

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SIXTH AUDITOR IS CHARGED WITH GROSS LOOSENESS IN GUARDING POSTAL FUNDS

ALLEY SIDEWALK BARRED AT GRACE REFORMED CHURCH

Message to Congress Cited by Commissioners in Opposition to Request—A Way May Be Found.

President Roosevelt, by the insertion of a certain clause in his first message to Congress, has become the innocent cause of much worry and embarrassment to his fellow-worshippers at Grace Reformed Church.

The Chief Executive placed himself on record as opposed to the issuance of permits for sidewalks or other improvements which would tend to increase the number of dwellings on narrow side streets and alleys of the District of Columbia. He declared that such thoroughfares were congested at best and should be left free for traffic of vehicles from building line to building line.

When the congregation of Grace Reformed Church, of which Mr. Roosevelt was and is still a member, decided to purchase the property to the west of its old house of worship, and build a more commodious structure, it was with the implied understanding that no objection would be made to the construction of a sidewalk from Fifteenth Street to the O Street entrance of the new church.

The question of a sidewalk was for the time disclaimed from the minds of the building committee, and plans begun for the stone edifice, which is now nearly completed, in the corner. When the time arrived for the committee to obtain a permit for the sidewalk they were told by the District Commissioners that O Street, at the corner of Fifteenth Street, was so narrow that it came under the head of "narrow streets and alleys," and that the Board, acting in accordance with the expressed wish of the President, could not allow the sidewalk to be constructed.

To say that the building committee was taken aback, is stating the matter mildly. The members endeavored to explain that Mr. Roosevelt could not have intended to place an obstacle in the way of the construction of the church to which he himself belonged, and the argument was advanced that the case of Grace Reformed Church should be made the one exception to prove the rule.

It was even hinted that Mr. Roosevelt might look kindly upon such favorable action by the guardians of the city's welfare, but all to no avail. The Commissioners did not grant the permit then, nor have they done so. A report, however, has gained considerable credence in the District Building to the effect that a "way may be found" whereby the exact letter of the law may be evaded, and a sidewalk constructed upon which the congregation of Grace Reformed Church may find its way to and from the house of worship.

COMMISSIONER FOULKE EXPECTED TO RESIGN

Will Go Into Politics in the Hoosier State.

Civil Service Commissioner Foulke, it is said, will resign his office within a short time and return to Indiana. It is reported that he is anxious to take a hand in Hoosier State politics. This, of course, he cannot do while occupying the position he does on the Civil Service Commission.

When Mr. Foulke accepted the office he did so with the understanding that he was to be allowed to retire when he had accomplished certain purposes. In bringing these purposes about the President promised and gave his assistance. The President understands Mr. Foulke's desires, and will reluctantly permit him to retire.

There is already one vacancy on the commission caused by the appointment of Mr. Garfield as chief of the Bureau of Corporations under the new Department of Commerce and Labor. It is probable that Mr. Foulke will not resign until that is filled.

W. W. Heffelfinger, formerly the crack guard on the Yale football team, is under consideration by the President for a place on the commission. He was here some time ago before the President left for his Western trip, and is said to have been offered the position. In case he does not accept the present vacancy, he may arrange to succeed Mr. Foulke.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT WATCHES THE GEYSERS

Will Remain Buried in Park Until Wednesday.

CINCINNATI, Mon., April 18.—President Roosevelt left Norris today, after watching the geysers of the Norris Basin as long as they interested him. Then he and his companions went part of the way to Norris on horseback, but the condition of the road was such that they had to take to sledges about half of the way. No further communication is expected from the President until next Wednesday, unless some emergency arises.

Secretary Loeb yesterday received a letter from a venerable citizen of the State of Washington inclosing a bunch of "home-made artificial flies." The Washingtonian said that he had seen in the newspapers that the secretary had no luck catching fish, and that he hoped to see his luck change with the new flies. He said that he had often sent flies to Presidents at Washington, but had never heard from them, and supposed the secretary got them and said nothing. The letter concluded:

"P. S.—Be sure to spit on your hook." The secretary took this advice to heart to such good effect that he pulled a very comforting string of trout out of the Gardiner River today.

CINCINNATI BANK LOSES

BAKING POWDER STOCK

NEW YORK, April 18.—The loss by the Union Savings Bank and Trust Company of Cincinnati, of \$128,000 worth of Royal Baking Powder Company stock was announced over the Wall Street ticker today.

The stock is not listed on the exchange, but is dealt in on the curb, where it was quoted today at 101 bid, 102½ asked. The loss of such a sum caused a great deal of comment in Wall Street. There was no indication whether the securities were lost or stolen.

CINCINNATI, April 18.—An official of the company refused to explain tonight how the stock of the Union Savings Bank and Trust Company was lost.

Special Treasury Committee Discovers Lack of System Which Might Permit Theft of Millions From Postal Funds.

Matter Now Rests With Secretary Shaw, Who Is Expected to Order Investigation—Check-Ing Accounts.

Secretary Shaw will unexpectedly be drawn into the upheaval caused by the postoffice investigation. The committee which he named to suggest improvements in systems of bookkeeping employed in various Treasury divisions seems to have done its work too well, so far as the office of the Auditor for the Postoffice Department is concerned.

The committee will soon report to the Secretary of the Treasury, and will charge looseness which would permit the stealing of millions by dishonest employees.

It will charge that in auditing the accounts of the chiefs of such divisions as salaries and allowances, postoffice supplies, free delivery, and rural free delivery, against which charges of extravagance have been freely made, it was the auditor's duty to act in an advisory capacity, and that if he has permitted abuses of authority he is equally blameworthy with such chiefs.

An attempt will be made to show that the method employed in maintaining a check on stamps which come from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, as compared with the number that are furnished on requisitions of postmasters, is at fault and that there is no effective manner of preventing frauds.

The foregoing will be a part of the criticism which will be made of the office of the Auditor, and which Secretary Shaw will have to investigate, as the Auditor for the Postoffice Department, although he reports directly to the Postmaster General, is yet a subordinate of the Treasury Department.

New Phase of Scandal.

The postoffice scandal has thus far been confined to divisions under the First Assistant Postmaster General. There has been no charge of laxity in the office of the auditor for the department, and that there should even be a hint of loose methods in auditing the maze of accounts which come under the final decision of Auditor Castle furnishes the incentive for thorough investigation.

The greatest clearing house in the world is controlled by Auditor Castle. Though not generally known, the money order system alone, which is checked under the supervision of Mr. Castle, carries more than \$300,000,000 a year, several million dollars more than that of the Bank of England. It is accepted that if there is any place where the most exacting system should be used in the auditing of accounts it is in the office of the Auditor for the Postoffice Department.

Secretary Shaw's investigating committee has made many discoveries in the four months it has been at work, but none so startling as those which leaked out late yesterday afternoon. Thus far Mr. Shaw has not learned of the result of the work done by his committee, which, by the way, was organized with scrupulous care from men who have had years of experience in examining accounts. The committee consists of one man each from the offices of the auditors for all the departments and one from the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury. Their work has been performed with so little ostentation that few people knew there was such a committee.

Discoveries Kept Secret.

Discoveries made by members of the committee have been maintained as secrets. It has been only since the disclosures in the Postoffice Department that anything has been learned of the committee's efforts to arrive at the facts regarding systems of checking accounts. The first thing to invite question was the method of accounting for stamps received from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and disbursed to postmasters. No statement was made as to the exact manner in which such check was made, but a member of the committee did say that it was "so loose that it cannot be told whether all the stamps printed are sent to postmasters or not."

The system is regarded as so bad, it was said yesterday at the office of one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Treasury, that the division of internal revenue of the Treasury Department will be asked to furnish a guide to the system employed in checking revenue stamps in order to install a similar plan at the Postoffice Department.

Three checks are kept on internal revenue stamps.

The paper on which they are printed is manufactured by the New York and Pennsylvania Company, and is used for